



UTAH NATIONAL GUARD PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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Contact: Lt. Col. Hank McIntire, (801) 420-4778

For Immediate Release

Utah Guard Medevac Unit Deploys to Afghanistan

DRAPER, Utah – Approximately 20 soldiers of the Utah Army National Guard's Detachment 2, Charlie Company, 1-171st Aviation, will depart Utah on the first leg of their 12-month deployment to Afghanistan shortly after a departure ceremony Tuesday, Nov. 5, at 10 a.m. at the Army Aviation Support Facility in West Jordan.

The group will first travel to Fort Hood, Texas, for several weeks of deployment-specific training before heading overseas to Afghanistan.

Their mission will be to provide medical evacuation and airlift capabilities to Coalition forces in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Following the formal ceremony, soldiers will spend time with families before boarding their UH-60 Blackhawk helicopters for departure. A small number of soldiers from the unit will travel to Fort Hood via commercial aircraft on Wednesday.

Media desiring to cover the departure of the 1-171st should be on site no later than 9:30 a.m.

Media Notes: The Utah Army National Guard's Aviation Facility is located at 7602 S. Airport Road in West Jordan. For more information, please contact Lt. Col. Hank McIntire at (801) 420-4778.